

Message Text

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43/46

ACTION ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7830

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2940

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3 SUBPARA E)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO'S VISIT TO SECRETARY

REF: VAKY-MAISTO TELCON APRIL 2

1. FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS REGARDING SCHEDULE AND
AGENDA FOR LIEVANO'S VISIT AND REFLECTING FURTHER LONG
CONVERSATION WITH HIM THIS AM.

2. SCHEDULE.

A) LIEVANO TRAVELING TO US MONDAY, APRIL 7
VIA AVIANCA 54 ARRIVING MIAMI AT 1430 AND CONNECTING WITH
EAL 176 ARRIVING WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT AT 1813 HOURS.
HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ERNESTO
TORRES.

B) MINISTER IS PREPARED TO SPEND APRIL 8 AND 9
IN WASHINGTON.

C) HE UNDERSTANDS THAT TUESDAY, APRIL 8 HE WILL
INITIALLY BE RECEIVED BY ASST SEC ROGERS, THEN GO TO MEET THE
SECRETARY FOR SHORT PRIVATE TALK AND THEN TO LUNCH.
HE IS DELIGHTED WITH THIS ARRANGEMENT.

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D) HE ASKS THAT LUNCH BE INFORMAL AND VERY MUCH

A BUSINESS LUNCH NOT RPT NOT SOCIAL. HE SPECIFICALLY SAID HE WILL BRING NO OTHER COLOMBIAN OFFICIALS WITH HIM, AND DOES NOT RPT NOT WANT OTHER COLOMBIANS AT THE LUNCHEON. HE HAS NO PROBLEM WITH THE US PERSONNEL I INDICATED FROM TELCON WOULD PROBABLY BE PRESENT. HE IS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO HAVE AMBASSADOR BUNKER THERE. HE DOES NOT MIND BEING OUTNUMBERED. (THIS IS VERY MUCH IN CHARACTER, AND THE WAY HE USUALLY OPERATES.)

E) HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE A SEPARATE MEETING PERHAPS THAT AFTERNOON WITH AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND HIS STAFF TO GO INTO THE PANAMA QUESTION IN DEPTH. HE WOULD APPRECIATE OUR PERSPECTIVE ON THE TALKS AND THE FUTURE, AND HE WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY HIS IMPRESSIONS AND THOUGHTS. I TOLD HIM I UNDERSTOOD SUCH A MEETING WAS BEING ARRANGED. (SEE 3 B BELOW)

F) HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MEETING WITH OAS PERSONNEL TO GO OVER UPCOMING ASSEMBLY AND DISCUSS TIEMS IN DETAIL, AND PERHAPS ANOTHER MEETING WITH ASST SEC ROGERS ON SAME SUBJECT OR TOGETHER.

G) HE WOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME A BRIEFING ON WORLD SCENE AND OUR VIEWS-A TOUR D'HORIZON--FROM S/P. I SRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT SUCH A BRIEFING BE SCHEDULED WITH EINAUDI AND IF POSSIBLE WITH LORD.

H) I HAVE SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT F) AND G) MIGHT BE SCHEDULED WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, AND HE IS VERY AGREEABLE.

I) SINCE COLOMBIAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL WILL BE WITH HIM WE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF SOME EXPLORATION OF LATER PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. I HAVE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF SEPARATE MEETING BETWEEN TORRES AND AMBASSADOR CATTO OR APPROPRIATE CPR OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS STRUCTURE AND SHAPE OF STATE VISITS, NOT RPT NOT SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THIS SPECIFIC VISIT--BUT RATHER WHAT IS GENERALLY INVOLVED SO THAT PRESIDENT LOPEZ CAN THINK ABOUT IT AND AS FOUNDATION FOR LATER DISCUSSIONS ON DETAILS OF VISIT. FOREIGN MINISTER ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THIS IDEA, AND I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THIS BE SET UP TUESDAY WITH COLOMBIAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL
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PARTICIPATING.

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IT WILL SMOOTH THINGS FOR LATER. (SEE SEPTTEL.)

J) LIEVANO SHOWS NO INTEREST IN CONTACTS ON HILL AT THIS POINT. I RECOMMEND NOTHING BE SCHEDULED IN THAT REGARD.

3. AGENDA.

A) PRESIDENTIAL LETTER. MINISTER CONFIRMED TO ME HE WOULD BE CARRYING LETTER SIGNED BY FOUR LATIN AMERICAN

PRESIDENTS ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT FORD RE PANAMA MATTER. HE WILL DELIVER IT PERSONALLY TO SECRETARY FOR DELIVERY TO PRESIDENT. I INVITED HIM TO PROVIDE US WITH ADVANCED TEXT SO AS TO FACILITATE ANSWER AND DISCUSSION, AND HE DEMURRED. HE SAYS HE WAS "COMMISSIONED" BY PRESIDENTS TO CARRY THE LETTER, AND HE CLEARLY SEES IT AS A RESERVED AND PERSONAL THING, AND AS SOMETHING BETWEEN LATIN PRESIDENTS AND PRESIDENT FORD, RATHER THAN BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

B) PANAMA. LIEVANO SAYS HE VERY MUCH WANTS TO TALK ABOUT PANAMA PROBLEM. HE PARTICULARLY WANTS TO CONVEY TO SECRETARY HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE PANAMANIAN PICTURE AND ITS EXPLOSIVENESS AND HIS CONCLUSIONS AFTER MANY CONTACTS WITH GOP. THE GENERAL LINES OF HIS THINKING ARE OUTLINED IN BOGOTA 2881. HE WOULD OF COURSE LIKE TO HAVE OUR VIEWS ON SITUATION AND NEGOTIATIONS, AND FOR THAT REASON WANTS VERY MUCH TO TALK TO AMBASSADOR BUNKER. I STRONGLY URGE THAT THIS MEETING BE ARRANGED (ITEM 2E ABOVE); THIS WILL BE ONE OF THE MORE IMPORTANT POINTS OF HIS VISIT FROM LIEVANO'S VIEWPOINT.

C) THOMSON-URRUTIA TREATY. HE MAY BRING THIS UP TO EXPLAIN WHAT COLOMBIA DID. IN THIS REGARD THERE MAY BE CONFUSION ABOUT THE SITUATION. THE GOC'S THINKING IS DESCRIBED IN BOGOTA 2881. COLOMBIA DID NOT RPT NOT INTEND TO DENOUNCE THE TREATY NOW OR AT ANY AUTOMATIC MOMENT. IT MERELY SOUGHT TO SECURE BEST OF ALL WORLDS--CONTINUITY IN ITS PRIVILEGES. IT EXPECTS THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO RESPECT THE TREATY AS LONG AS WE ARE OBLIGATED AND IN A POSITION TO DO SO, AND THAT WE WILL FACILITATE THE ON-GOING ARRANGEMENT WITH PANAMA. IN THIS CONNECTION, I BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT WE STRESS TO LIEVANO OUR INTEREST AND SYMPATHY. AS DEPT KNOWS PRESIDENT LOPEZ HAS IDEA THAT COLOMBIA HAD TO CONFIDENTIAL

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GO TO PANAMA BECAUSE WE HAD INDICATED TO GOC WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE ANYTHING IN THE FUTURE. WE MAY WISH TO REASSURE HIM ON THIS POINT AND CORRECT THE IMPRESSIONS APPARENTLY CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ BY BALCAZAR (BOGOTA 802).

D) CUBA. LIEVANO WILL CLEARLY WANT TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS (AND OBSESSION) RE CUBA AND WILL SURELY REPEAT WHAT HE TOLD ASST SEC ROGERS.

E) OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT SAME RANGE OF ITEMS REGARDING OASGA, HE WAYS, AS HE DID WITH ASST SEC ROGERS. HE WILL WANT TO DISCUSS SECGENERAL SITUATION AS WELL. IN MY VIEW LATTER POINT IS SOMETHING WE MAY WISH TO RAISE WITH HIM. COMMENT: IN COURTESY CALL ON EX PRESIDENT PASTRANA YESTERDAY, PASTRANA RAISED QUESTION AND INDICATED HE HAD BEEN SOUNDED OUT. HE DID NOT COMMIT HIMSELF EITHER AS TO GOC'S INTENTIONS OR HIS OWN DESIRES , BUT

MY IMPRESSION IS THAT HE IS INTERESTED IF GOC WANTS TO MOVE THAT WAY. IT MAY ALSO BE, HOWEVER, THAT GOC MADE SOME OTHER COMMITMENTS DURING PANAMA MEETING.)

F) HEMISPHERE/NEW DIALOGUE. LIEVANO WILL OF COURSE WANT TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS ON MORE ABSTRACT CONCEPTS, AND HEAR SECRETARY'S. HE WILL BE MOST INTERESTED IN HEARING SECRETARY'S THOUGHTS REGARDING HIS UPCOMING LATIN AMERICAN VISIT.

G) PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. HE MAY WISH BRIEFLY TO DISCUSS WITH SECRETARY THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT (AFTER ALL, THIS WAS THE ORIGINAL PEG ON WHICH SECRETARY'S INVITATION WAS HUNG) AND SPECIFICALLY REGARDING DATES (SEE SEPTTEL).

H) BILATERAL. LIEVANO HAS INDICATED NO RPT NO PARTICULAR DESIRE TO RAISE ANY BILATERAL QUESTION. I DOUBT HE WILL BRING UP TRADE ACT, SINCE COLOMBIA FEELS NO PROBLEM THERE BEYOND THE CONCEPTUAL ONE LIEVANO EXPRESSED TO ROGERS. IF TEXTILE TALKS HIT SNAG HE MAY BRING UP THAT TOPIC. HE MAY MENTION QUITA SUENO.

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